

Foreman Report  
July 2016

Roads

- We experienced a few storms in July that had us fixing small washouts and cutting several trees out of the road. The storm in the early morning hours of July 21<sup>st</sup> snapped trees like twigs from one end of the island to the other. To my best guess the road and park crew cut over 100 trees that had fallen in the road. Down power lines were everywhere; leaving the entire island without power. All town personnel performed superbly and worked extremely hard to restore the island back to normal. Xcel Energy also worked extremely efficiently to restore power in a timely manner.
- I have been working closely with the DNR to permit and plan for several culvert replacements this fall. Three on North Shore and one on Capser Road. All the new culverts will be resized, realigned and extended to provide for a proper shoulder on the road and better water flow.
- A small amount of undermining on a cross culvert on Hagen Road was occurring causing the black top to break away. This area was cut out and re packed and cold asphalt mix was used to patch the top back to a rideable surface. We will monitor this closely; as this is usually a good sign of a culvert that is rotten and needs replacing.
- The back slopes of the ditches started to be cut, but operations were halted with a failing hydraulic valve bank on the TV 145 tractor. This is fixable but it will be costly, so I'm holding off until we have a better understanding of how our budget looks in the fall. Needless to say, the boom mower will not be cutting any more grass this year. We currently have higher priority needs with equipment, but I plan to budget for a better mower in the future.

Parks

- Capser trail was littered with trees after the wind storm we had on July 21<sup>st</sup>, at least 30 trees were removed from the trail. Later in the month, the 120 was used to knock down several dead leaning trees in the trail area as well.
- New infield mix was added to the ballfield, and has really improved the look and playing surface. A big thank you to the Softball Association for paying for the bulk of the material. The next big improvement to the ballfield will be work on the back stop and new team benches in the coming year.
- The cross timber on the Rec Center swing set was showing wear and was replaced with a larger 6x6.
- The new "pocket" park off of Main St. has been a great addition to the town. Many people have commented on how nice it is and what a great location. The porto-potties in both locations have been getting used very heavily, which just demonstrates that the need for additional bathrooms around town is high. One proto-pottie was damaged in the storm, while it has returned to shape, it does have a large crack in the door, and will be claimed on our insurance. The damaged one will be kept just in case it is needed for emergencies or other cases.
- BBTP is running smoothly. The biggest negative comment is the hot water is not lasting for the paid showers. We plan to budget for two instant hot water heaters to be installed next year to eliminate this problem. I'm currently waiting on some estimates.

### Buildings

- The fire hall gutters have been cleaned.
- A small part of the ridge cap on the Police garage was ripped off during the wind storm and fixed
- The outside spigot on the Fire Hall was replaced.
- In August, we plan to add a water filter to the Heath Center to help solve the occasional “black” water that is appearing.
- The generator at the town hall was completed a couple days before the power outage from the wind storm that happened, the only thing that was left was a full load test, which I had scheduled for that week. The morning of the 21<sup>st</sup> the power was knocked off and the generator kicked on and operated perfectly, allowing the town hall staff to conduct business as usual. The full load test was complete!

### Misc.

- The hydraulic ram that we waited to be built for the MRF roll-off truck was finally finished and picked up. On July 27<sup>th</sup> the first loads of trash were hauled off the island by the town, unfortunately the trucks’ differential was shot upon return. This was a known possibility buying a 1997 truck, but was hoped that it would not happen and last for much longer, or ever. We plan on having the correct parts on the island in the second week of August and back running by the 15<sup>th</sup> of August, which would be best case scenario. The good news is this all fixable ‘in house’.
- The AWOS (Automated Weather Station) project at the airport has been delayed by weather several times. Nelson construction should have the road finished in the early part of August and then the tower can go up. The hopes for completion is August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristian Larsen  
LaPointe Town Foreman